Application No.: 08/737904 Docket No.: IMI-040CP3

REMARKS

Claims 22 and 23 are currently pending. Claim 22 has been amended.

In particular, claim 22 was amended to specify that the composition consists of a combination of peptides. Support for the amendment to claim 22 can be found throughout the application as originally filed.

The foregoing amendment should in no way be construed as an acquiescence to any of the Examiner's rejections, and has been made solely to expedite examination of the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims as originally filed in this or a separate application. No new matter has been added.

Rejection of Claims 22 and 23 Under 35 U.S.C § 102(e)

Claims 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(e) as being anticipated by Singh *et al.* (U.S. Patent No: 5,721,119). The Examiner concludes that Singh *et al.* teach the amino acid sequence of $Lol\ p$ Ib.1 "wherein said sequence contains the peptides recited in the claims".

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. However, to expedite prosecution, independent claim 22 has been amended to specify that the composition consists of a specific combination of *Lol p* Ib.1 fragments. Accordingly, the pending claims are novel in view of the cited reference.

Application No.: 08/737904 Docket No.: IMI-040CP3

SUMMARY

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance. If there are any remaining issues or if a telephone conversation with Applicants' Attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (617) 227-7400.

Dated: February 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne M. DiGiorgio Registration No.: 41,710

LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

28 State Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02109

(617) 227-7400

(617) 742-4214 (Fax)

Attorney/Agent For Applicant